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20 March 1980

SOUTH AND EAST ASIA REPORT

No. 879

CONTENTS	PAGE
INTER-ASIAN AFFAIRS	
Briefs	
Pakistan-Philippine Taxation Accord	1
Japan Aid to Fiji	1
BURMA	
Rangoon Division to Use High-Yield Paddy Varieties (THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY, 21 Feb 80).....	2
INDIA	
Gandhi-Laldenga Talks May Pacify Mizos (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 13 Feb 80).....	3
Probe Begins on Village Attacks in Bihar (THE HINDU, 9 Feb 80).....	6
Over 11 Reported Dead Reprisal Raid Appeal to Mrs Gandhi	
Bihar Trouble Spreads Over Caste Differences (Various sources, 10, 12 Feb 80).....	9
Enraged Over Attacks 'THE STATESMAN' Comments, Editorial	
Minister Declares Stress Again on Heavy Units (THE TIMES OF INDIA, 11 Feb 80).....	12

CONTENTS (Continued)

Page

Briefs

Intelligence Head Named	14
Starvation Deaths in Uttar Pradesh	14
Suicide by BARC Officer	14
Fertilizer Output Decline	15

LAOS

Politburo Members Receive Diplomatic Corps (KHAOSAN PATHET LAO, 2 Jan 80).....	16
---	----

Annual Trade, Industry, Public Works Activities Reported (KHAOSAN PATHET LAO, 4, 5 Jan 80).....	17
--	----

Savannakhet Garment Factory
Phong Saly Public Works
Song Khon Trade

Agricultural Expansion, Dry Season Rice Reported (Various sources, Various dates).....	19
---	----

Luang Prabang Rice Fields
Hat Sai Fong Dry Season Rice
Luang Prabang Starchy Crops

Briefs

Savannakhet Boats to State	21
----------------------------	----

MALAYSIA

Malayan Peasants Front Supports Paddy Planters' Struggle (Voice of the Malayan Revolution, 23 Feb 80).....	22
---	----

PAKISTAN

Afghanistan Invasion Draws Attention to Country's Disunity (Klaus Natorp; FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE, 21 Jan 80).....	23
--	----

Need for Informing Public on Nature of Diplomatic Activities (Editorial; JASARAT, 6 Feb 80).....	28
---	----

Complicated Passport Requirements for Travel to India Questioned (Editorial; JASARAT, 6 Feb 80).....	30
---	----

Large Expenditures on Population Planning Yields No Progress (Editorial; THE MUSLIM, 19 Feb 80).....	31
---	----

CONTENTS (Continued)	Page
Various Cooperation Agreements Signed With Algeria (MORNING NEWS, 19 Feb 80).....	32
Cabinet Approves National Agricultural Policy (MORNING NEWS, 25 Feb 80).....	35
Agriculture Conference Criticized for No 'Plan' (MORNING NEWS, 27 Feb 80).....	37
Next Few Months Crucial for Country's Oil Efforts (Sikander Hayat; THE MUSLIM, 18 Feb 80).....	39
Adhi Well To Produce 2000 Barrels of Oil (MORNING NEWS, 28 Feb 80).....	40
Comprehensive Transmission Grid Project To Be Implemented (BALUCHISTAN TIMES, 17 Feb 80).....	41
Construction on Modern Textile Mill for Lahore To Start (THE MUSLIM, 19 Feb 80).....	42
Locomotive Plant Offer by Romania (THE MUSLIM, 16 Feb 80).....	43
Briefs Afghan Cattle to Pakistan	44
TAIWAN	
Briefs Kaohsiung Incident Detainees	45
THAILAND	
Paper Warns Against Leaning Too Close to Any Superpower (Editorial; SIAM RAT, 23 Feb 80).....	46

BRIEFS

PAKISTAN-PHILIPPINE TAXATION ACCORD--Manila, 23 Feb--Pakistani Ambassador at Manila Akram Zaki and Philippine Finance Minister Cesar Virata signed yesterday a convention for the avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income between the Republic of the Philippines and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. The tax treaty signed today negotiated last year between the two countries would cover business profits income from immovable property profits from the operation of ships and aircrafts dividends interests royalties capital gains independent personal services artists and athletes pension and annuities Government functions professors students and other income articles unless otherwise provided by the convention itself. Ambassador Zaki and Minister Virata called the treaty an important landmark in the economic relations of the two countries and hope that commercial and economic cooperation will grow to the mutual benefit of two peoples.--APP. [Text] [Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 24 Feb 80 p 1]

JAPAN AID TO FIJI--Tokyo Feb 26 KYODO--Japan has agreed to provide up to yen 500 million in grant aid to Fiji to help promote the fishing industry on the southwest Pacific island state, the Foreign Ministry announced Tuesday. Notes on the agreement were exchanged Monday by Japanese Ambassador Hiroshi Ohtaka and Fiji Prime Minister Kamisese Mara in Suva, the capital of Fiji, officials said. The aid will be used to furnish a training ship for bonito fishing, a fishery research and development ship, facilities for a fishery experimental station and a dormitory and workroom for trainees, officials said. [Text] [Tokyo KYODO in English no time given 26 Feb 80 OW]

CSO: 4220

RANGOON DIVISION TO USE HIGH-YIELD PADDY VARIETIES

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 21 Feb 80 pp 1, 5

[Excerpts] This was decided at a meeting to coordinate the township-wise allocation of economic plan targets in the agricultural sector in Rangoon Division for 1980-81 held at the Rangoon Division People's Council this morning.

He asserted that Rangoon Division must make efforts to obtain an average yield of 60 baskets of paddy per acre.

More than 1.3 million acres are to be put under paddy in Rangoon Division in 1980-81. Of the total 250,000 acres are to be put under special high yield variety, 549,000 acres under high yield variety and 508,073 acres under local high yield variety.

The meeting also decided to stop growing ordinary low yield variety in Rangoon Division.

CSO: 4220

GANDHI-LALDENG TALKS MAY PACIFY MIZOS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 13 Feb 80 pp 1, 9

[Text] New Delhi, February 12. The expected talks between the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, and the Mizo rebel leader, Mr Laldenga, may well start a process in the troubled northeastern states that could arrest the dangerous drift towards disintegration of the region.

There could not have been a more propitious occasion to initiate the effort. A wide spectrum of political opinion in Mizoram is keen that there should be a settlement between the Centre and the Mizo National Front and this keenness is shared by the moderates of the MNF.

It should be noted that the ground for a meeting between the Prime Minister and the MNF chief was laid by a five-party "steering committee" from Mizoram which includes nominees of the state units of the Congress (I) and the Janata party.

The popular backing for the five-party group was demonstrated in the recent Lok Sabha elections when its joint nominee, Dr R. Rothuaman, was elected by a comfortable majority. The "steering committee" came to Delhi with the object of getting the release of Mr Laldenga, who is facing trial on treason charges, and formally proposed to the Mizo leader that he should start talks with the Centre to find a solution to the Mizo problem "within the framework of the Indian constitution."

The Mizo leaders are of the view that Mizoram--and more particularly the MNF--holds the key to stability in the northeastern region. Even if one does not fully accept the claim, the arguments put forward by the Mizos is worth taking note of for an understanding of the problem.

The state is ideally placed for carrying on insurgent activities. It is a state which has international borders on two sides--with Burma and Bangladesh. It is easy for any secret group in the state to maintain links with outside.

Also, the Mizo National Army is the only organised insurrectionary force in the region that can withstand any amount of combining operations among the thick overgrowth of the craggy countryside. In support of this claim, the Mizo leaders point out that years of operations against the insurgents have failed to subdue the hardcore of the underground army.

Insurgent Activities

The Mizos also claim that, because of these factors, the Mizo undergrounds can play a vital role in insurgency activities in the northeastern region. According to Mr Laldenga, the largely unorganised insurgent bands from the neighbouring states have been approaching the MNA for supply of arms. "We have refused them," Mr Laldenga told this correspondent, "because we know from experience that giving arms to these groups is like giving a sharp knife to a child. It can hurt itself."

The key to the change in the attitude of the undergrounds--specially the moderates among them--lies in this statement. Twenty-two years of insurgency has led the Mizo National Front nowhere near its target, and the vastly changed situation between that existing immediately after independence and now has apparently persuaded the moderate undergrounds at least to change their sights.

The old arguments of the 1950's no longer hold good. The emotional reaction of the undergrounds immediately after independence to the fact that the "tribals" were not represented in the constituent assembly when the future of the "tribal regions" was decided has now given place to a more realistic appraisal about "which links can serve the interests of Mizoram best." The moderates have opted for New Delhi.

Mr Laldenga claims that he had come to Delhi in 1976, on an assurance of safe conduct given by the Union government after the MNF had decided to solve the Mizo problem within the framework of the constitution. The successor government did not honour the commitment. The Mizo leader was arrested and prosecuted on treason charges.

According to Mr Laldenga, the hardened attitude adopted by Mr Morarji Desai had cost several lives because there was no one in Mizoram to control the extremists among the underground who carried on the insurgency. When he meets Mrs Gandhi, the threads of the negotiations interrupted by the change in government at the Centre in 1977 will be picked up again.

According to the MNF, the main problems that would have to be tackled are (1) finding a solution to the political problem, namely what would be the Centre-state relationship between Mizoram and New Delhi, and (2) the steps to be taken for the "psychological rehabilitation" of the undergrounds.

As far as the first problem is concerned, the MNF considers the present arrangement--the Union territory status of Mizoram--thoroughly unsatisfactory. The Centre would have to take into account the aspirations for "autonomy," of the Mizo people. Adequate safeguards must be provided for the "survival of the Mizos as a distinct ethnic and cultural entity."

The second problem would require a patient handling, according to MNF leaders. Two decades of underground insurrection have created a band of people whose return to normal social life would not be easy. It would require a generous understanding from the administration--a step necessary for the return of normalcy to the trouble-torn state.

CSO: 4220

PROBE BEGINS ON VILLAGE ATTACKS IN BIHAR

Over 11 Reported Dead

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] Patna, Feb. 8. The sleepy Parasbigha village where a dozen persons, including four women and five children all school-going students, were gunned to death and many killed in the orgy of violence and arson on the midnight of February 6 still reeks of gunpowder.

The village, 85 km south of Patna, near Jehanabad subdivisional town of Gaya district, is situated on the banks of Dardha a monsoon-fed river which is now dry and fanged by tall palm trees which were mute witness to the gruesome killings and arson reminiscent of the savagery of the middle ages.

The victims were shepherds and Yadavas belonging to backward castes and the assailants are said to be members of the upper caste Bhumihaar criminal gang, whose leader Niranjan Sharma was allegedly done to death in August last year.

Surprise Attack

According to the police proceedings had been initiated against Sharma under the Crime Control Ordinance. Two Dusadh Harijans (besides a few shepherds and vadayas had been arrested in connection with Sharma's murder.

As midnight hour struck on February 6, 7 and a truncated pale moon began creeping on the sky, faintly illumining the tall palms shuddering in cold breeze, dogs began to bark. Their persistent howls pierced the eerie silence of the cold night.

Inside their huts, the inmates were fast asleep but from one of the huts an old man peeped out to see why the dogs were barking so furiously. His sixth sense warned him that something was amiss--he was sensing danger, maybe dacoits have come, he thought.

Even before he could register what he had seen tall men armed with guns and rifles started converging on the hamlet from all sides and the assailants numbering 100 to 150 suddenly swung into action killing and burning.

They sprinkled kerosene and petrol on the thatched mudhuts of shepherds (35 to 40 of them) and set them on fire. Flames leapt high and wide dazed and shrieking men, women and children came out from sleep only to be hurled back into the flames and roasted alive. Men who tried to escape were shot at and they fell to assassins' bullets.

Eleven persons were killed on the spot and one of the eight seriously injured died later in the Jehnabad Hospital. One person with serious burn injuries has been admitted in Patna Medical College Hospital and remaining six in Gaya and Jehanabad hospitals.

Throughout the night and day of February 6-7 fire kept raging and by the evening of February 7 when the fire brigade from Gaya district town put out the fire, all the 40 huts had been reduced to ashes. Till late in the afternoon villages would not allow local officials to remove the charred bodies of the victims. They insisted that they would allow the bodies to be removed only in the presence of the Chief Minister, Ministers or high officials from Patna.

Men have fled the village in panic and your correspondent confronted only wailing women and children, who had survived the holocaust, dumb with grief and agony. There was a jostling crowd of people who had come from neighbouring villages to express their sympathy for the victims.

After an hour-long acrimonious debate on an adjournment motion the Bihar Assembly today constituted a five-man committee of the House to enquire and report on the carnage within a week. The Finance Minister, Mr Kailashpati Mishra, replying to the debate on behalf of the Government announced ex-gratia grant of Rs 2,000 each for the family members and dependents of the victims.

CM visits village

PTI reports from Parasbigha: The Bihar Chief Minister, Mr Ram Sunder Das, today visited Parasbigha.

Reprisal Raid

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] Patna, Feb. 8. An armed mob, looted property and assaulted women and children in Dohia village, Gaya district this morning. The attack was said to be in retaliation for the incidents in neighbouring Parasbigha on Wednesday.

The attack on Dohia, which started around 9 a.m. continued for nearly two hours. The entire property of 15 families belonging to a particular caste was looted and houses were damaged and nearly 30 women, children and old men were injured.

The mob had taken advantage of the absence of men folk who had either been detained in connection with the Parasbigha incidents or fled for fear of arrest.

Official sources in Jahanabad said an explosive situation prevails in all villages around Parasbigha. Police sources said at Parasbigha that the incidents there had taken a caste turn.

The Gaya District Police Superintendent told newsmen that 51 persons have been named in the FIR in connection with the Parasbigha incidents. The main accused has been named as Madan Moham Sharma, son of the late Niranjana Sharma.--UNI.

Appeal to Mrs Gandhi

Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] Patna, Feb. 8. The Bihar Congress(I) leader, Dr Jagannath Mishra, tonight apprised the Prime Minister, Mrs Gandhi, of the latest situation in the Jehanabad subdivision of Gaya district where group clashes were escalating following the Parasbigha incident, and urged her to intervene immediately.

Dr Mishra invited Mrs Gandhi to visit the spot to create a sense of security and confidence among the terror-stricken villages as "the State administration has totally collapsed and is incapable of meeting the situation."

Dr Mishra told newsmen he had demanded the handing over of the entire subdivision to the army as the situation was grave and tension was spreading to nearby villages. He said that prohibitory orders promulgated throughout the subdivision indicated that the situation was really grave and police had failed to restore law and order.

CSO: 4220

BIHAR TROUBLE SPREADS OVER CASTE DIFFERENCES

Enraged Over Attacks

Madras THE HINDU in English 10 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] Patna, Feb. 9. The whole area from Jehanabad to Poonpun at the trijunction of Nalanda, Gaya and Patna districts is gripped by caste frenzy as Yadavas, enraged by the Parasbigaha carnage of February 6-7 have begun attacking the upper caste Bhumihars in the countryside.

A platoon of CRP and a battalion of the Bihar Military Police have been rushed to the affected villages where the situation was today described as "serious" by the Home Commissioner, Mr V. V. Nathan. The Chief Secretary, Mr I. Dayal and the Inspector-General of Police Mr S. K. Chatterjee, are camping at the Jehanabad subdivisional town.

The trouble yesterday spread to the neighbouring Sarthua village under the Makdumpur police station of the bordering Patna district where a group of Yadavas shot down Kishore Sinha, a Bhumihar landlord.

A woman, who was injured in the daylight attack by Yadavas yesterday in Dohia village in reprisal for the Parasbigaha outrage, died last night in the Jehanabad hospital. Seventeen persons--14 women, two children and an old man--had been injured in the attack. Women were stripped naked and criminally assaulted by the Yadavas.

All young and able-bodied men of Dohia had either fled the village or been taken for interrogation by the police. Four of six persons named in the FIR on the Dohia attack have been arrested by the police so far.

Meanwhile the visit (since yesterday) of politicians to the trouble spot has only served to inflame caste passions in the area. What is worse, according to senior State Government officials, the area abounds in illicit firearms and criminal gangs, mostly belonging to the militant Bhumihar and Yadava castes which are now in a state of confrontation.

Probe into Parasbigha Incident

The Bihar Chief Minister, Mr Ramsundar Das, said here today that he had no information of the "retaliatory attack" by an armed mob in Dohia village in Gaya district yesterday, PTI reports.

Mr Das said there was, however, some tension in a nearby village. The Commissioner and the D.I.G. rushed to the spot from Parasbigha and brought the situation under control.

The Chief Minister said his Government had ordered a departmental inquiry into the Parasbigha incident.

He said the situation there was under control. Border Security Force had been deployed in the area and intensive patrolling was going on round the clock.

'THE STATESMAN' Comments

Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 12 Feb 80 p 6

[Editorial: "Caste War in Bihar"]

[Text] Cause and effect seem to overlap in the kind of murderous lust that has Bihar in its grip. Nor would it be fruitful to lay too much stress on the immediate provocation that led to the carnage in Parasbigha village, followed within 48 hours by equally insane retaliatory violence in Dohiya, which is barely a mile away. The first outrage took toll of 12 lives, but the second included assault and plunder on a far more systematic scale. Both imply the State Government's total inability to uphold law and order and maintain peace between Yadavas and Bhumihars. For Parasbigha is populated by the hierarchically backward, but otherwise now rich and influential castes which were encouraged to militancy during Mr Charan Singh's tenure of office at the Centre. Yadavas and Kurmis were granted generous employment quotas and allowed to indulge in riotous demonstrations in Patna and Lucknow, in defence of what they were told were their rights. Brahmins, Rajputs, Bhumihars and the other upper castes, as well as deprived Harijans, understandably resented the concession. The opening act of this cruel sequence was an expression of the backlash of resentment against backward castes that has been gathering momentum for months. In attacking the Bhumihars of Dohiya village, Yadavas were exacting a no less vicious form of vengeance.

The rights and wrongs of such running warfare matter far less than what the upsurge reveals of trends in Bihar. Patna reports suggest that Bihar's hostile caste groups are preparing for a major showdown; there are believed to be at least 150,000 illegal weapons (including light machine guns) in the subdivision of Gaya district where these tragedies occurred. Tension

is also spreading to other districts where too villages have virtually free access to illicit arms and ammunition. Harijans are not yet involved in the conflict, but events in 1975 and 1976 revealed that they too are prepared to fight it out with guns. Indeed, Yadava and Kurmi bitterness owes much to Janata and Lok Dal propaganda that the Scheduled Castes are specially favoured at their expense. That Bihar has a Harijan Chief Minister in Mr Ram Sundar Das possibly exacerbates resentment among both the backward and upper castes.

Matters might never have come to this sorry pass without cynical political interference. Just as the Lok Dal has persistently incited Yadava aggressiveness, the Congress (I) is, not surprisingly, anxious to discredit Mr Ram Sundar Das's Janata Ministry. Having returned 30 out of 54 MPs from Bihar in the January polls, Mrs Gandhi's party probably feels it has a better claim to the State Government. Accusations to this effect have already been voiced in the State Assembly, where the Congress (I) and CPI appear to be making common cause. But problems of caste bellicosity will not be solved by just dismissing the Ministry, inept though it is. All Bihar parties pander to community passions, with the result that elevation of one set of politicians is inevitably seen as a threat by members of other groups.

CSO: 4220

MINISTER DECLARES STRESS AGAIN ON HEAVY UNITS

Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 11 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] Madras, February 10. The Union minister for finance and industries, Mr R. Venkataraman, today said the previous government's policy of giving priority to the tiny sector followed by the small-scale and medium-scale industries with heavy industry at the bottom of the ladder was being abandoned by the Central government.

The new policy would be one of integrated development of all sectors of industry and the "archaic and outmoded concept" of curtaining the growth of large-scale industry to allow the small-scale sector to grow "will be given the go-by," Mr Venkataraman told the Tamil Nadu Small Scale Industries Association here.

In the industrialized countries, he said, it was found that the bigger the industry the more it farmed out ancillaries to the small sector. It was wrong to think of the small-scale sector as the manufacturer of end consumer products. He said, on the other hand, small-scale industries in the advanced countries were generally the producers of components and ancillaries. Mr Venkataraman said both were complementary to each other and both should be developed.

Second, he made it clear that the thrust of providing mass employment opportunities would be shifted from agriculture to industry. Seventy per cent of the population of India lived in the villages and depended on agriculture but despite massive investment agriculture would not be able to provide employment to such a huge chunk of the population, he said.

Based on the experience of other countries, Mr Venkataraman said, the aim now would be to transfer as much of the population as possible from the agricultural sector to the industrial sector and to the tertiary sector comprising such areas as trade, commerce, banking marketing, communications and the like. This was the present picture of economic development all over the world "and we cannot swim against the current."

The finance minister noted that the "poor performance" of the coal and transport (railways) sectors despite heavy investment had affected industrial production and power generation. The first action of the new government was to set up a cell to monitor the infrastructure, he said.

Mr Venkataraman said he was confining himself to just the broad points of the economic policy without answering the specific points raised by the Association because "a finance minister before the budget is the most silent person in the world" as anything he might say might lead to market speculation.

CSO: 4220

INDIA

BRIEFS

INTELLIGENCE HEAD NAMED--New Delhi, Feb 8. Mr T. V. Rajeshwar, Special Commissioner of Andhra Pradesh, has replaced Mr S. N. Mathur as Director of the Intelligence Bureau. Mr Rajeshwar, who was the seniormost Joint Director, was asked to go on leave by the Janata Government and had been without any new posting for seven months. Later, he was appointed by the A. P. Government as its Special Commissioner in New Delhi. Mr Rajeshwar today took over from Mr Mathur who has been reverted to his parent State of Punjab.--UNI. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 9 Feb 80 p 6]

STARVATION DEATHS IN UTTAR PRADESH--Allahabad, Feb. 11.--A Congress(I) MLA, Mr Bishawanath Pratap Singh, yesterday alleged that several starvation deaths had taken place and at least 20% of the total population of Allahabad district was going without food following the Uttar Pradesh Government's suspension of relief work in the drought-hit district, reports UNI. The Government must resign because it had failed to tackle the situation, he told reporters. Mr Singh said the Government had stopped the food-for-work programme in the areas where people had voted the Congress(I) to power. He said that though the State government had denied that starvation deaths had occurred, it had granted financial help to certain bereaved families, including one in Giriadih in his constituency. Referring to the shortage of kerosene diesel and cooking gas Mr Singh said it was all because of mismanagement. [Text] [Calcutta THE STATESMAN in English 12 Feb 80 p 9]

SUICIDE BY BARC OFFICER--A Scientific Officer of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre here, in love with a friend's fiancée, took his own life yesterday. According to the Trombay police, the officer, Mr Linga Gaud, 25, left a note for his friend mentioning his feelings and saying that since he did not want to come in the way, he was ending his life. Mr Gaud is believed to have consumed poison. He was admitted in the BARC hospital yesterday morning as he was vomiting. He died in the afternoon. [Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 12 Feb 80 p 11]

FERTILIZER OUTPUT DECLINE--Chandigarh, February 10 (UNI). India is likely to face fertiliser shortage of about 40 percent this year, according to preliminary official estimates. Hopes of higher production of fertiliser during the current financial year had been raised after the commissioning or expansion of a number of units in the country. However, power shortage and coal and fuel scarcity have led to an unforeseen decline in fertiliser production. While the exact fall in production is yet to be assessed, it is not expected to be more than last year's production of about three million tonnes. This shortfall would leave a gap of about 40 percent in demand and availability of fertiliser, which would necessitate imports. While some fertiliser units have already suspended production for want of coal, power or fuel, some others are on the verge of shutting down. Unless timely and effective steps are taken, the country will face serious fertiliser scarcity, even though the fertiliser offtake had been about 15 percent less this year owing to meagre rains, official sources said. The sources said plants at Barauni (naphtha based), Sindri (fuel oil based), Gorakhpur (naphtha and coal based), Talcher (coal based), Panipat (fuel oil and coal based) and the new plant of the Nangal unit, were among those which have already suspended production. There are about 18 big fertiliser units in the public sector. [Text] [Bombay THE TIMES OF INDIA in English 11 Feb 80 p 15]

CSO: 4220

POLITBURO MEMBERS RECEIVE DIPLOMATIC CORPS

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 2 Jan 80 p A 13

[Text] Vientiane (KPL)--At 1100 hours 1 January at the president's residence in Vientiane, Souphanouvong, president, chairman of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Central Committee of the Lao National Construction Front received the salutes and greetings of the diplomatic corps and representatives of international organizations resident in Laos on the occasion of the international New Year, 1980.

Joining with President Souphanouvong to receive the guests on this occasion were Phoun Sipaseut, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, Souvanna Phouma, advisor to the government, Khamphai Boupha, deputy minister of foreign affairs and a number of high-ranking officials from various concerned departments.

On that occasion H. E. Mustafa Ahmed Fahmi, the Egyptian ambassador to Laos, as dean of the diplomatic corps proudly delivered a speech of good wishes to President Souphanouvong, other leaders of the Supreme People's Council and government, and the people of Laos. Then President Souphanouvong replied with thanks for the good wishes. At this opportunity President Souphanouvong, representing the Council, government, and people of Laos, expressed profound good wishes through the diplomatic corps to the governments and peoples with whom Laos maintains diplomatic relations, that is, the other peace-loving nations of the world.

On the same day Kayson Phomvikan, secretary general of the Lao Revolutionary People's Party and prime minister of the Lao Democratic People's Republic, and President Souphanouvong received well wishers representing various offices, organizations and ministries such as the Party Central Committee Secretariat, the Office of the Prime Minister, the Supreme People's Council, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and members of the Central Committee of the Lao National Construction Front as well as representatives of mass organizations for women and labor unions.

The entire ceremonies from beginning to end were conducted in an atmosphere of great unity, love, and friendship. The dignitaries wished every person new and greater victories in 1980 which is the final year of implementation of the three-year plan established by the party and state.

ANNUAL TRADE, INDUSTRY, PUBLIC WORKS ACTIVITIES REPORTED

Savannakhet Garment Factory

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 5 Jan 80 p A 4

[Text] Vientiane (KPL)--In the past year the garment workers in Savannakhet Province diligently employed their creativity and their rights of ownership of their machinery and factory in the glorious accomplishment of their annual quotas. During that period they sewed a total of 3,594 adult garments, 3,150 pieces of children's garments, blankets, and mosquito nets, and 840 sheets, pillows and other items. At present these workers are competing to set work records in honor of the 1 May 1980 celebrations.

Phong Saly Public Works

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 4 Jan 80 p A 3

[Text] Vientiane (KPL)--During 1979 the cadres and workers of the various offices subordinate to the Phong Saly public works department diligently put their creativity and their sweat and toil into carrying out their duties in order to guarantee adequate transport for distribution of goods within the province.

During that period they transported by land and water a total of over 330 tons, repaired over 80 inoperative vehicles to put them back in operation, built 14 kilometers of new roads, repaired many segments of unusable or washed out roads totaling over 190 kilometers in length, and opened a driving school with a class of 33 students. In addition, they voluntarily deposited 3,700,000 (liberation) kip of their savings in the state bank.

Currently the cadres and workers in this department are resolutely striving to set new work records in honor of the coming international labor day, 1 May.

Song Khon Trade

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 4 Jan 80 p A 3

[Text] Vientiane (KPL)--During the last year the stores in [Meuang] Song Khon District, Savannakhet Province, competed among themselves to purchase production and forest products from the people in the various localities in Song Khon District cheerfully and conveniently. At the same time they offered goods for sale at all times. Prices were satisfactory to both buyers and sellers.

During this period they purchased 91 plus tons of resin and large numbers of buffaloes, cattle, and other domestic animals, including 3,895 kilograms of ducks and chickens. Besides these purchases the cadres of these stores brought agricultural implements, educational materials, comestibles, and every day household articles to sell in all of their localities.

8947

CSO: 4206

AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION, DRY SEASON RICE REPORTED

Luang Prabang Rice Fields

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 31 Dec 79 p A 4

[Text] Vientiane (KPL)--During 1979 the multi-ethnic people of [Meuang] Nan and Luang Prabang districts of Luang Prabang Province organized to open up new rice fields and to revitalize abandoned rice fields totaling 114 hectares, including 58 hectares in Luang Prabang. This increased the area of rice fields in the two districts to 2,041 hectares, including 1,848 hectares in Nan district.

Even though the people of those localities encountered obstacles and difficulties due to natural conditions which precluded use of the latest tools and they used primarily human labor in opening up new rice fields, because they organized themselves into teams, particularly agricultural cooperative labor teams, and used their individual creativity for the highest efficiency of their labor, they succeeded in winning a glorious victory.

Hat Sai Fong Dry Season Rice

Vientiane VIENTIANE MAI in Lao 9 Jan 80 p 1

[Text] After the rice had been sown and had reached the stage where it was ready for transplanting, around the first of January 1980, members of agricultural cooperatives throughout the 11 cantons of [Meuang] Hat Sai Fong District, Vientiane Province, organized a labor force to expedite the transplanting to over 1,100 hectares of dry season rice fields, including over 500 hectares of combined fields, in a vigorous and happy manner.

Organization of their effort to work the dry season fields each day involved dividing into several teams such as ones to pull up seedlings, to plow and harrow the fields, to build and repair dikes, and to transplant seedlings together amidst the happy, carefree singing of the young people.

Due to their good organization and division of labor for every aspect of the work, they have been able to overcome obstacles and to do the work quickly and on time. As of now the farmers of that district have been able to transplant seedlings to over 560 of their 1,100 hectares of dry season rice fields.

At present all members of agricultural cooperatives in Hat Sai Fong District are firmly resolved to unite in working to finish transplanting the rice to dry season and combination fields on time.

Luang Prabang Starchy Crops

Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 3 Jan 80 p A 5

[Text] Vientiane (KPL)--During the 1979 production season members of the 53 agricultural cooperatives and the multi-ethnic people of Luang Prabang Province, in addition to concentrating on their farming and other productive work, have mobilized to expand growing of secondary starchy and industrial crops. Starchy crops included corn, manioc, sweet potatoes, taro, and arrowroot. Industrial crops included yellow beans, green beans, peanuts, tobacco, cotton, and sugar cane.

During this period they planted over 11,000 hectares including over 7,000 hectares of starchy crops.

These results played a part in achieving the goals set by the party for food production in 1979.

8947

CSO: 4206

BRIEFS

SAVANNAKHET BOATS TO STATE--Vientiane (KPL)--On 4 January the Passenger Boat Association of Savannakhet Province turned over control of seven long-tailed boats to the provincial water transportation state enterprise to be used for the benefit of society. At the time of the transfer the representative of the provincial state enterprise promised that these boats would be used to serve the needs of the various localities in keeping with the desires of the donor. [Text] [Vientiane KHAOSAN PATHET LAO in Lao 9 Jan 80 p A 5] 8947

CSO: 4206

MALAYAN PEASANTS FRONT SUPPORTS PADDY PLANTERS' STRUGGLE

BK251427 Voice of the Malayan Revolution (Clandestine) in Malay to Malaysia and Singapore 1030 GMT 23 Feb 80 BK

[Excerpts] The Malayan Peasant Front [MPF] calls on all peasants throughout the country to support the struggle of the Kedah paddy planters.

On 30 January, the MPF Central Committee issued a statement on the demonstration of the Kedah paddy planters, entitled: "Unite and support the just struggle of the Kedah paddy planters!"

On 23 January, more than 10,000 paddy planters in Kedah state converged on the state house in Alor Setar to protest against the swindles and exploitation of the national paddy and rice authority and to put forward their demand for higher purchase prices for paddy. It was the biggest peaceful peasant demonstration since the anti-hunger march launched by the peasants in Baling and elsewhere in 1974.

On 10 January, the government put into effect the so-called coupon subsidy scheme, under which 2 ringgit is to be deducted from the price of a picul of paddy. This measure has inflicted heavy losses on the paddy planters, because it has forced down the paddy prices established in 1979.

The demonstration of the bare-handed paddy planters was carried out peacefully. They are fighting for an end to the swindles practiced by the national paddy and rice authority, especially the coupon subsidy scheme, and for an increase of paddy prices to 42 ringgit.

Therefore, the charges of uprising, of an attempt to take over the state government, of illegal assembly and so forth are all slanders on the paddy planters and excuses for further persecuting them. In fact, it was the government-directed armed troops and police who resorted to violence and provoked clashes in Alor Setar on that day.

The MPF strongly condemns the government for its suppression of the paddy planters and demands that the fabricated charges leveled against the 92 persons under arrest be immediately and unconditionally withdrawn.

The MPF Central Committee calls on peasants throughout the country to go into action and support the just struggle of the Kedah paddy planters, strengthen their solidarity with their worker brothers and the people of other social strata and fight for their basic rights and immediate interests.

AFGHANISTAN INVASION DRAWS ATTENTION TO COUNTRY'S DISUNITY

Frankfurt/Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE in German 21 Jan 80 p 3

[Article by editorial staff member Klaus Natorp, datelined Islamabad: "The Soviet Advance in Afghanistan Pushes Pakistan's Internal Difficulties Into the Background; Not All Inhabitants of Baluchistan Are Longing for a State of Their Own/Zia-ul-Haq Is No Khomeyni"]

[Text] Prior to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, hardly anyone was willing to give a farthing for Pakistani chief-of-state General Zia-ul-Haq. It was regarded as good as certain that before long another general would take the place of General Zia. The names of Chisti and Iqbal were mentioned. The one administers several departments in Zia-ul-Haq's cabinet, the other is chief of staff of the army. But the events in Afghanistan most likely saved the "chief material law administration," as he calls himself, for the time being. At the moment, at any rate, no one any longer speaks of the replacement of General Zia-ul-Haq. In every situation critical for Pakistan, a change at top is generally regarded as unthinkable. Internal disorders in Pakistan would be tantamount to an invitation to the Soviet Union to involve itself in the internal affairs of this state as well. To be sure, as far as is known, there are as yet no strong communist cadres in Pakistan who could request Soviet "assistance," but the Soviet Union could easily find another pretense to push its area of domination, at least for some distance from Afghanistan into Pakistan.

As the possibly weakest spot of Pakistan in this connection, the province of Baluchistan is frequently mentioned. The Pakistani government does not like to hear this because it takes the view that the difficulties it is experiencing there are frequently presented in exaggerated fashion in the West. As a matter of fact, much has been done in the last few years to meet the wishes of the population of Baluchistan for more self-government, for stronger participation in the development of the state as a whole. But the development of such a backward area as Baluchistan takes time. One cannot make up in a few years what was omitted during decades before. Moreover large sums that were made available to the province by the central government disappeared without a trace into the pockets of the traditional feudal rulers. Already Zia-ul-Haq's predecessors Ayub Khan, Yahya Khan and Bhutto had broken their teeth on the tribal chieftains who frequently still act like absolute rulers.

Now the Russians seem to want to play their little games with these feudal lords. Probably they have already begun to lure the tribal elders with money and the promise of an independent state of Baluchistan. But in all probability it would then be the little kings--who in many cases are still engrossed in the Middle Ages--who would be the first ones to be killed in the communist revolution. But financial enticement often blinds people to the dangers posed by communism. With money one can attain almost anything in poor Baluchistan. Pakistan could keep up with this only if it would print money continuously; this it will probably not do. Thus, the only alternative that remains is vigorous opposition to all separatist tendencies again and again.

Not all inhabitants of Baluchistan, by the way, long for a state of their own or demand autonomy. There are many who realize what Pakistan means to them. That this state at least guarantees them freedom of religion, while in Afghanistan Islam is being pushed into the background, counts heavily with people to whom their religion means a great deal. The refugees, who are also coming to Baluchistan in great numbers, are going out of their way to prejudice the population against Soviet attempts to make use of the Baluchis' aspirations for autonomy.

The threat to Pakistan emanating from the Soviet action in Afghanistan has pushed other internal difficulties Pakistan is having into the background; they are not gone, however. Although the situation is not clear. The government consists of a mixture of military personnel and civilian experts without outstanding figures, with the possible exception of the "foreign minister," Aga Shahi, who holds the title of "adviser to the president for foreign policy affairs" and is an experienced and knowledgeable man, tried and tested in many negotiations and conferences. To be sure, all important decisions are not made in the cabinet but in the military council of the generals. How power is distributed there is unknown. Because of the threatening situation in which the country finds itself, "with a superpower on its doorstep" as he puts it, the president has lately again been thinking about "taking the people into his confidence." In other words, Zia-ul-Haq would like to find some way to support his power politically, after stating only a few months ago, in canceling the elections that had been firmly promised for November 1979, that now the military would rule for a while without politicians and on the basis of martial law.

The only elected popular representatives whom the president can at the moment address on this plan are the members of the municipal parliaments, who were elected again for the first time in 15 years in September of last year. The military takes some pride in this. In its view, democracy in Pakistan can be built up again only from below and must not begin with the roof, the National Assembly. The neglect of parliamentary democracy in the city, kreis, and village parliaments has indeed been a chronic weakness of all hitherto-existing Pakistani governments. It should therefore not be viewed as insignificant that elected municipal parliaments once again exist in Pakistan. The only blemish: There were no party slates, only "independent"

candidates. At the present time parties are not allowed in Pakistan. But since most everyone in the communities knows who in the past belonged to, or tended toward, what party, it was not difficult to find out which party had won the municipal elections: That was the Pakistani People's Party of former prime-minister Bhutto. It was able to win by far most of the seats, hence it must have strong support now as before.

Elections to the National Assembly Lie in the Remote Future

General Zia-ul-Haq's opponents believe that this result frightened the president so much that he canceled the elections to the National Assembly for this reason. This version, to be sure, is contradicted by the fact that further elections on the way from below to the top are to be held soon: in the districts. Then it will already be the turn of the provincial parliaments. Elections to the National Assembly, by contrast, still seem to lie in the faraway future. In the meantime, another authoritative body is supposed to fill the gap: a mixture of parliament and council of states. Elected deputies from the municipal parliaments, the municipal councils and the representative bodies of the professions (for example, chambers of attorneys and chambers of industry and commerce) are to belong to this advisory assembly. The president is thinking of approximately 100 members all together. To be sure, the plan appears as yet to be still rather crude. Moreover, it is uncertain whether those whom Zia is thinking of calling to this strange authoritative body will in fact come and collaborate in it. The crisis in and around Afghanistan most certainly has not covered up all fissures in domestic politics, and in the course of his now almost 3 year rule, the president has changed his mind so frequently that many a candidate for Zia's "people's assembly" may not find it exactly enticing to be "taken into the confidence" of--of all people--this head of state who time and again shows signs of uncertainty.

It is the constant to and fro, the permanent zigzag course, which has earned for the president the reputation of untrustworthiness and probably until a short time ago induced the generals to look for another chief of state. In view of the dangers threatening from the outside, however, no other alternative remains now but to hold on to Zia-ul-Haq and to improve his image among the public as much as possible.

It would certainly be wrong to call Zia-ul-Haq a Pakistani Khomeyni. The Pakistani Muslims are predominantly Sunnites: The role of the scribes, the ulama, among them is not remotely comparable to that of the ayatollahs in Persia; the general, moreover, has never devoted himself to intensive theological studies. Nevertheless, there are strange concurrences between Khomeyni's and Zia's concepts of Islam.

It is said that the scribe Maulana Maudoodi, who died not long ago and who was known and respected far beyond Pakistan and is also revered in Iran as one of the fathers of the "revolution" there, was among the mentors of Zia-ul-Haq. The rumor is even circulating that Zia is a member of the

Jamaat-I-Islam, a political organization with a religious-orthodox program and strictly-led cadres built up by Maudoodi and led by him until his death, or that he at least sympathized with the party. That would explain a good many things, including Zia's distaste for the rather secular-oriented "Pakistan People's Party (PPP)" of Bhutto, who was handed over to the gallows by the military.

Jamaat-I-Islam people, whose anti-Western attitude--in conjunction with a racism that is becoming constantly more distinctive--almost assumes at times fascist features, today occupy numerous influential positions, more than they are entitled to on the basis of the votes cast for this party in the elections. As it turns out, clashes between Jamaat-I-Islam students, who are pushing their way more and more in the University of Islamabad, and PPP adherents were the reason for the closing of the university, which has remained closed to this day. It was not the storming of the American embassy in Islamabad that originated from this graduate college. In the devastation of the embassy, which according to all information available to date was by no means a spontaneous action but was carefully planned ahead of time, left and right radical groups, by contrast, collaborated closely together in an unholy alliance.

As in Iran, in Pakistan, too, there is an anti-American/anti-European as well as an anti-Soviet component among the forces riding the Islam wave. It is well known that the radical leftists would have no objections if the Russians came across the Hindu-Kush to Pakistan as well. The orthodox Muslims of the Jamaat-I-Islam, by contrast, do not want this but are also not prepared, on the other hand, to take up the battle against communism in this part of Asia on behalf of the West, as it were. The Pakistani's would prefer not to lay their lives on the line for anyone except themselves. How many of their countrymen are likely to think the way they do? At any rate, it cannot be ascertained whether General Zia-ul-Haq, with his desire for Western security guarantees and increased shipments of arms, speaks for the majority of the population or only for himself and a part of the military. A number of Pakistani's, whose number cannot be determined, apparently do not want an increase in Western assistance. This group is anti-Soviet, anticommunist, but also anti-Western. How strong it is remains in the dark.

But these days much remains in the dark in Pakistan. What will become of the parties, and where have their organizations gone? Will new parties rise on the ruins of the old ones? Is Bhutto's "People's Party" without Bhutto still viable or even attractive for the masses? Nobody these days dares to come forward with a political statement. In any event, he would hardly have a chance to gain a hearing in the censored newspapers. But is the censorship still necessary? The "martial law administrator," after all, seems to feel rather secure.

The security measures that are put into effect during public appearances of the president are not unusual. Everything seems normal: It is so quiet that Zia-ul-Haq is planning to lift in the near future the house arrest

imposed on approximately half a dozen individuals who are regarded as "dangerous"--including, among others, the widow of Bhutto and her daughter Benazir. However, one can almost be certain that the calm is deceiving. Under the apparently quiet surface things are boiling. At the moment Afghanistan still overshadows everything else, but that will not last forever. Then the political differences will again come to the surface, and a serious conflict can also arise at any time from the enormous economic difficulties with which the country has to struggle.

The "smiling cobra"--as Zia-ul-Haq is popularly called because of his constantly friendly facial expression--which suddenly shoots forward and snaps, has many enemies and few friends. But the West must not make its action dependent on personal feelings of congeniality or antipathy at the present time, but must orient it solely on the basis of its geopolitical, strategic interests.

8970

CSO: 4403

NEED FOR INFORMING PUBLIC ON NATURE OF DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITIES

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 6 Feb 80 p 3

[Editorial: "Inform us About Diplomatic Activities"]

[Text] The British Foreign Minister came and returned. The Chinese Foreign Minister came and has gone back. Foreign ministers from dozens of countries gathered here. Mr. Peacock from Australia also came. A special ambassador of the U.S. President Carter arrived here, and, after very long meetings and high-sounding promises, returned. Now, a six-member Congressional delegation is expected here. At present, India's Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Mr. R.D. Sathe, is here and having discussions. There is no previous record of such heavy diplomatic activities in 40 days. The extraordinary diplomatic activities during these 40 days indicate that our foreign policy is heading for a major change.

The headlines in newspapers are hinting at possibilities of change in foreign policy. "If Pakistan is Attacked, America will Send Armed Forces. Following this Promise, Pakistan is not Worried About Amount of Aid"; "Defense Pact of 1959 Has Been Rejuvenated, says Zia Al Huq"; "In Case of Attack from India, America does not Feel Itself Bound to Safety of Pakistan. This Would be True Even if Attack Were Made Under Russia's Direction, says Agha Shahi"; "Foundation of Lasting Friendship Between America and Pakistan has been Laid. It is too Early to Say That America Will Establish Military Bases in Pakistan, says Brzezinski"; and "American Bases Should be Established in Pakistan, says Kissinger." These are some of the headlines we found on the first page of some of today's newspapers. These headlines suggest some of the important contemplated changes in basic national foreign policy.

We would like to mention here that the foreign policy of any country should not result from brainstorming of a few minds. Geography, international political happenings, in-depth analysis of past history, and the feelings and involvement of the people of the country, should all influence formulation of policy. The founding principle of a strong foreign policy is the people's feeling of involvement and satisfaction. This is the backbone which makes it dynamic and lively. If foreign policies are drafted

without people's involvement, and attempts are made to implement these by force, they cannot succeed, and sometimes lead to turmoil. In Afghanistan, for example, "revolution" was brought about without involvement of the people but through some external agreements. The whole world is witnessing the demonstration of the Afghan people's irritation. This irritation has existed for one and three-quarter years, and has resulted from the foreign policy formulated by the revolutionaries. According to this foreign policy, 25-year friendship pacts and defense agreements were made with Russia.

Iran provides us with another example. In this case, without taking the people into his confidence, and thinking of himself as owner of everything, the shah extended his hand for friendship with America and made those defense pacts. The people of Iran threw those away in their wrath. America, the friend of yester years, is considered an enemy of Iran now. These two examples are of two countries where people did not feel that they were involved in the formulation of their foreign policies. The results of all this are before our eyes.

The purpose of this discourse is that now that our foreign policy is being reviewed and friends and enemies are being decided anew, the people should be kept informed every minute about every move. They should know what is happening and what will happen. In addition, there should be some channels for people to express their positive or negative reactions on the steps taken. Unfortunately, there is not even one agency at present to serve as a liason between the people and the government. There is no representative assembly, and there seems to be no possibility of setting up an assembly in the near future. Two days ago, it was revealed in the speech of the Governor of Sind that the absence of such an agency has been gravely felt even on the governmental level. Therefore, establishment of some advisory councils is being considered.

How to establish rapport with the people to obtain their input on new changes before the shape of new foreign policy is decided, should be considered at high government levels. Before any permanent method or program is implemented, President Zia Ul Haq should at least take the people into his confidence about the diplomatic activities, and, in his address, tell them whatever can be told.

7997

CSO: 4211

COMPLICATED PASSPORT REQUIREMENTS FOR TRAVEL TO INDIA QUESTIONED

Karachi JASARAT in Urdu 6 Feb 80 p 3

[Editorial: "This Method Needs Review"]

[Text] A large number of citizens of Pakistan have directed our attention to a problem on which we already have expressed opinion. The international passport issued here bears a list of about 100 countries where the passport holder can go, but this long list does not include India, even though a significant number of passport holders desire to travel to India. People who want to go to India have to register India's name separately and pay 40 rupees. In other words, a person who wants to go to India has to get an international passport and get permission to go to countries to which he never desired to go to in his life, and then has to pay an additional 40 rupees to include India's name. Thus, he has to pay 200 rupees for the international passport just to visit India.

The question arises: why is India not included in the list of countries on the international passport? If, for some reason, it is not possible to do this, why not issue a special passport for India for 40 rupees? Why are we forced to obtain the international passport, and why do poor people have to pay 200 rupees for no reason? We hope that the government will accept this idea of issuing a special passport for India. It should cost the same as the fee charged to include India's name in the international passport. Otherwise, include India in the list of countries appearing on the international passport, and do not charge any additional amount.

7997

CSO: 4211

LARGE EXPENDITURES ON POPULATION PLANNING YIELDS NO PROGRESS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Feb 80 p 4

[Editorial: "Population Planning"]

[Text]

POPULATION planning has been a failure in this country for a variety of reasons. Despite the considerable expenditure on the large country-wide organisation and almost two decades of effort, the rate of our population growth has not been checked. The development of resources has sadly lagged behind the enormous increase in population. Whatever progress is made on agricultural, industrial and housing fronts, the number of mouths to be fed, the people to be employed and the families to be housed has invariably been higher. Administrative changes brought about in the family planning set-up from time to time have not succeeded in bringing about the desired results. The latest such change is the Federal Cabinet's decision regarding the decentralisation of the Population Planning Department and the setting up of a high level Council headed by the Chief Martial Law Administrator himself. The fact that the proposed new Council should consider first of all is that successive population planning programmes have failed because deep seated religious prejudices among the masses have frustrated all efforts at bringing the birth rate down.

The publicity disseminated through the Press does not reach the people and is confined to the educated middle classes which have already restricted their families to the limits recommended by population experts, and therefore do not need to be convinced. Future plans must concentrate on the rural areas. Experience has shown that no amount of the most skillfully devised propaganda can bring about any change in the attitudes of people in regard to so sensitive and intimate a matter as birth control, nor can any change in the administrative set-up of the population planning department and all its agencies achieve substantial results. Economic conditions and incentives are more important in shaping attitudes than propaganda. The people at the lowest rung of the economic ladder find children an asset; the more they have the better off they feel they are, since they do not spend much time on their education and since they find that even small children are capable of assisting them to keep themselves at the subsistence level. It is precisely this class that proliferates most. Our efforts to control our population can only succeed when we have been able to motivate parents of that strata of our society which exists precariously just above the starvation line. To these people, the 'khush hai gharana' of the Population Planning Department's propaganda is meaningless, since they can never dream of getting anywhere near the prosperity level promised to them.

VARIOUS COOPERATION AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH ALGERIA

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 19 Feb 80 pp 1, 8

[Text] Islamabad, Feb. 18: Pakistan and Algeria signed a protocol here this evening expressing their desire to set up a joint ministerial commission for wide-ranging cooperation technical, economic, industrial and agricultural fields.

The proposal also ensures continued cooperation in the area of common interests.

The two sides noted with interest and satisfaction that there existed great possibilities of wideranging technical and industrial cooperation between Pakistan and Algeria within the framework of concrete programme which constituted an exemplary basis for cooperation.

The two sides reviewed the economic relations between the two countries and agreed to pursue the efforts with a view to intensifying and diversifying them on the basis of mutual interests. In this respect, Algeria expressed the desire to meet its requirements from Pakistan in semi-finished leather products. Pakistan expressed its readiness to provide cotton and cotton products and typewriters to Algeria.

Their discussions included light industries, technical assistance in the field of maintenance and management textile, cement, paper and glass sectors and railways.

In the light industries, Algeria envisaged to set up a training institute for light industries sector and expressed the desire that Pakistan developed training centre on turn-key basis." Pakistan appreciated the proposal to further explore ways and means for helping Algeria to set up technical and training institutions in the industrial fields to be mutually agreed upon in view of the increasing production and productivity of industrial plants in the light industry sector and paper and glass sectors. Algeria wished to have experts from Pakistan in the field of management and maintenance.

Railways

Pakistan also expressed its desire to see to "develop cooperation in the field of railways" between the two countries. The Algerian side indicated possibility of cooperation in the development, modernisation and expansion of their railway system. In this connection, Pakistan Railways advisory services had been set up to provide the entire range of services for all kinds of railways.

The Pakistan side also informed that it was "possible to supply railway passenger carriages and wagons, manufactured by Pakistan Railways Carriage Factory workshop. On its part, Algeria agreed to convey its proposal to the concerned authorities in their country.

Pakistan further expressed its interest for the two countries to develop their relations in the hydraulic and irrigation sector. In this connection they recalled a protocol and agreement already signed in April and December, 1975.

Refinery

Pakistan also expressed its readiness to provide technical assistance and services in the fields of refinery, manufacture of lubricating oil and asphalt. The National Petroleum Company is ready to offer Algerian National company for these services.

The two sides agreed to encourage still closer relations between the two countries.

The protocol was signed by the Federal Minister for Industries and Production, Lt-Gen. Ghulam Hasan Khan, on behalf of Pakistan, while the Algerian Minister for Light Engineering on behalf of his country. Later, the Algerian Minister left Islamabad for home.

Lt.-Gen Hasan and senior officials saw him off.

Before his departure for home Mr Said ait Massaodene told newsmen that his visit to Pakistan would provide wide-ranging cooperation in industrial and technical sectors. He said his visit was motivated by traditional friendly and fraternal relations between the two countries.

The Algerian Minister also invited Lt.-Gen. Hasan to visit Algeria.

Technical Aid

Talking to newsmen at Islamabad airport after seeing off the Algerian delegation, Lt-Gen. Hasan said that Pakistan had offered technical assistance to Algeria for its development programme. In this regard, he mentioned the skills of WAPDA, National Construction of Pakistan. NESPAK etc., who were showing remarkable performance abroad.

Lt-Gen. Hasan said that Algerian Minister had appreciated the Pakistani manpower engaged in the nation-building works, and said that Pakistan was making maximum use of the "advance technology in different spheres of its economy."

He said the Algerian Minister visited the Heavy Mechanical Complex, Heavy Forge and Foundry and other industrial units and requested Pakistan for providing professional training facilities and technical assistance in the management of industrial plants like textile, cement, paper and glass etc.--PPI

CSO: 4220

CABINET APPROVES NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL POLICY

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 25 Feb 80 p 1

[Text] Islamabad, Feb 24: The principal objective of the national agricultural policy announced today is to improve quality of life of people of Pakistan.

This aim is to be achieved through the following policy measures:

A. Increase in agricultural production, not only to be self-sufficient nationally but also to be able to export.

This policy measure includes, among others, the following:

Provide at the doorstep of the farmers modern agricultural inputs including the latest appropriate technology for increase in agricultural production and productivity.

Give balanced emphasis to all aspects of agricultural production, including, livestock, fisheries (inland and machine) poultry, dairy, forestry, range, watershed management.

Develop land and water potential for a sustained growth of agriculture. The emphasis should not only be on irrigated agriculture but also on barani, arid and semi-arid zones of the country.

Improve marketing and storage facilities.

Promote through research the application of new technology for raising productivity per unit of land animal capital and labour establish remunerative input-output prices and provide financial incentives for increased production.

B. Provide opportunities to the people to engage in gainful employment to enhance their income for their social progress and contribute to national prosperity.

C. Give to the people equitable access to the natural resources of agricultural production i.e. land and water.

D. Provide basic amenities in the rural areas such as potable water, sanitation, primary education, basic health care and village to market roads.

E. Ensure preservation of natural environment side by side with agricultural production through rational measures in such matters as pest control, forest exploitation, control on grazing, wildlife management, salinity and flood control, etc.--APP

CSO: 4220

AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE CRITICIZED FOR NO 'PLAN'

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 27 Feb 80 p 4

[Text] The four-day national conference on agricultural research aimed at determining parametres and future strategy on agricultural research in Pakistan, concluded here this afternoon, after adopting certain recommendations.

Some of the recommendations adopted are: Pakistan should try to develop seed harvestors; all research institutions should be strengthened and agronomists should be evolved in preparing and evaluating their projects; bio-gas produce manure should be given attention in view of the increase in fertilizer prices, animal science technology should be improved and popularized in the country.

The group on farm mechanization and irrigation recommended that local industry in manufacturing tractors and implementations should be strengthened as indigenous production is not adequate.

The group on crops recommended that a separate department on horticultural crops should be set up and the Pakistan Agricultural Reserach Council should step up its efforts for the agricultural development in Baluchistan. It also recommended that the Flora of Pakistan, an agricultural institution under PARC, should be completed as early as possible.

The Inspector-General Forest in his recommendations said that the replacement and extension projects of forestry and range management should be given free hand in financial matters.

Remarks

In his concluding remarks, Dr Amir Mohammad, Chairman, Pakistan Agricultural Research Council, stressed the need of adoption of field oriented applied research.

Dr Amir Mohammad expressed his disappointment over the quality of recommendations came out of the conference and said that these have failed to come to the expectations pinned with the conference. People were expecting a plan of action about the integration of agricultural research to solve the common problems of the farmers.

The PARC chairman said that the council was utilizing allout efforts to sort out problems faced in the agricultural sector and to produce positive results.

He said that the recommendations and proceedings of the conference will be published and should be available to all concerns.

The conference evaluated the research projects financed by the PARC through PL-480 rupee holdings and the cess fund. The performance of these projects was also scrutinized.

CSO: 4220

NEXT FEW MONTHS CRUCIAL FOR COUNTRY'S OIL EFFORTS

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 18 Feb 80 p 1

[Article by Sikander Hayat]

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 17: The next couple of months are most crucial for Pakistan's oil efforts when production testing results at six wells, being drilled by the Oil and Gas Development Corporation, will become available, it was learned here today.

These wells, which are nearing completion, are Dhodak-2, Dhodak-3, Tut-7, Tut-10A, Tut-11 and Dhermound.

Oil experts expect another breakthrough at the Tut oilfield. In 1975-76 the production of this field jumped from 200,902 barrels to 446,306 barrels. The present output of this field is about 638,000 barrels per annum.

The Tut-7, which developed some complications in its final stages of drilling, is being "worked over". Its production tests will begin soon after the present operations are completed.

The Tut-10 A, a substitute well for Tut-10 which was abandoned

after its casing collapsed, is also nearing completion.

At Tut-11 the drilling has been done up to 1710 meters, and the casing has been set in and cemented. It is now ready for further drilling. "Good prospects" have been forecast for this well.

In Dhodak field, Well No. 2 has already been completed and is now undergoing production testing. The Dhodak-3 is nearing completion.

It is hoped that new Dhodak wells are likely to confirm the results of Dhodak-1 which has proved to be highly productive in condensate, naphta and gas.

The Dhermound oilwell, which developed a seepage problem due to high water pressure encountered during drilling beyond the first oil zone, is now reportedly under control. The production testing at this well is expected to begin soon after the stimulation operations, now in process.

Pakistan has successfully

reduced its dependence on liquid petroleum in terms of percentage of the energy mix, but it has yet to rely on heavy imports in order to meet domestic requirements.

Country's production of crude oil between 1971-72 and 1978-79 increased 23 per cent, giving an annual compound growth rate of 3.1 per cent. Considering year wise production, 1976-77 registered a growth rate of 49 per cent over the previous year due mainly to 100 per cent increase in production at Meyal oilfield.

According to a recent Government publication, about 743, million barrels of oil reserves exist in the known fields out of which about 476 million barrels have been rated as recoverable reserves. The cumulative production from six fields namely Dhullian, Balkasser, Joyamir, Meyal, Tut and Dhodak so far has been about 92 million barrels.

While Dhullian, Balkasser and Joyamir fields are almost exhausted, the Dhodak field with 200 million barrels reserve is yet to be tapped.

PAKISTAN

ADHI WELL TO PRODUCE 2,000 BARRELS OF OIL

Karachi MORNING NEWS in English 28 Feb 80 p 5

[Text] Production of about 2,000 barrels of crude oil daily is expected to start from Adhi well by the end of next month saving annually about Rs 200 million in foreign exchange at the current rate of its prices.

Pakistan Petroleum Limited (PPL) said that March 31 had been set as the deadline to commence oil production from Adhi well five, a joint venture of PPL and AMOCO.

Crude oil will be transported from well site by road tankers to Attock Oil Refinery at Morgan, a distance of about 42 miles.

To meet the production deadline, PPL, which is operator, in a Press release said necessary equipment was air-freighted at considerable cost. The size of the crude oil processing equipment presented certain difficulties. A Boeing 747 freighter service ultimately delivered the equipment at Karachi and later it was carried in Adhi through special road trailers.

Adhi structure in East Potwar was tested by PPL-AMOCO joint venture recently when oil was discovered. A number of production tests were subsequently carried out to assess various parameters for planning production facilities. The oil produced during these tests was analyzed in laboratories in Pakistan and abroad to establish its chemical analysis, necessary to ascertain the quality of oil and to determine oil processing requirements to bring the crude oil to acceptable refinery specifications.

Extensive investigations were made by PPL to procure suitable processing equipment which could be delivered in good time for the target date of end March, 1980. The only offer which could match the tight time schedule was from Howebaker of Texas, USA, part of the processing equipment, comprising two large pressure vessels, are being manufactured at the Karachi Shipyard. This helped in reducing the foreign exchange expenditure both for the manufacture and transportation of the two vessels.--APP.

COMPREHENSIVE TRANSMISSION GRID PROJECT TO BE IMPLEMENTED

Quetta BALUCHISTAN TIMES in English 17 Feb 80 p 4

[Text] Quetta, Feb 16: WAPDA has embarked upon comprehensive Secondary Transmission Grid Project which will be implemented in phases over a period of 4 years.

It is the third power project for the secondary transmission system under which WAPDA will construct 210 substations with an aggregate transformation capacity of about 4,800 MVA and about 2,700 miles long transmission lines of various capacities. The project on completion would bring considerable improvement in the distribution system.

For smooth implementation of these projects the Government has already arranged loans worth about 80 million dollars which includes an IDA credit of 45 million dollars and special amount credit of 35 million dollars. Besides loan of 14.5 million dollars is expected from the Canadian International Development Agency and another loan of 18 million dollars from KFW West Germany are also expected for the project.

Meanwhile 13 foreign firms from West Germany, France, Belgium, England, Scotland, and Italy have submitted their bids in response to the international tenders floated by WAPDA for supply of 74 power transformers 20 oil treatment plants and transformer oil, for the transmission grid projects.

CSO: 4220

CONSTRUCTION ON MODERN TEXTILE MILL FOR LAHORE TO START

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Feb 80 p 6

[Text]

LAHORE, Feb. 18: Construction work of a modern textile mill near here will start at an initial estimated cost of Rs. 150 million in March.

The mill is being constructed with the assistance of investors from Qatar.

The government has already approved the project.

The mill to be named as the Shelter Textile Mills Ltd., will be constructed about 25 kilo metres from here on the Multan Road and will produce 3,30,000 yards of grey cloth, 5,00,000 bed sheets, 1,700,000 yard, of canvas and 1,700,000 towels per year.

This total target will be attained in three shifts after employing 1500 workers.

ying 1500 workers.

The mill is expected to go into production by the middle of 1982.

Equity and loan provided for this project will be non-repatriable and interest-free and this will be an export oriented textile project in the country.

Under the first phase besides other construction work, a colony for workers with hospital and school will be built and under the second phase machinery will be installed.

The mill will have 25,00 spindles, 500 looms alongwith finishing processing and printing plant.

A team of directors from Qatar is expected to visit Pakistan sometime during next month in connection with the construction of this project.—PPI

CSO: 4220

LOCOMOTIVE PLANT OFFER BY ROMANIA

Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 16 Feb 80 p 1

[Text]

ISLAMABAD, Feb. 15: Romania has offered to set up in Pakistan a diesel and electric locomotive manufacturing plant in collaboration with a German firm Krauss Maffei.

While the trade balance between the two countries continues to be unfavourable to Pakistan, this country is reported to have paid back 45 per cent of 320 million-dollar Romanian credit received for National Oil Refinery (140 million dollars) and Kohat Cement Plant (180 million dollars) through Pakistani exports to Romania. According to an agreement these credits are to be paid back in the shape of Pakistani goods.

The new trade agreement signed in addition to Joint Economic Commission Protocol, between Romania and Pakistan, envisages much broader expansion and diversification of trade between the two.

Both the countries abolished barter trade in 1975 for being IMF

members and since then between them open trade is in vogue.

The imports from Romania for the current year include drilling rigs, power transformers, power generating sets, building and road machinery, electronic computers, bearings, metallurgical products, fertilizers and cement. The stipulated exports to Romania are cotton, textile and yarn, woollen textile, machine made woollen and jute carpets, sports and surgical goods, leather and leather products, tobacco, dry fruit and canned juices.

In January, a Pakistan Technical delegation of the State Cement Corporation paid a two-week visit to Romania. They had reportedly discussed design, erection and civil construction of the Kohat Cement Plant.

Romania, it is learned, has shown keenness for Pakistan's participation in the forthcoming fairs for consumers on light industries and technical products to be held in Bucharest respectively in May and October.

CSO: 4220

PAKISTAN

BRIEFS

AFGHAN CATTLE TO PAKISTAN--About 15 lakh cattle-heads of Afghanistan have come with the refugees in NWFP and most of them are unregistered. According to official sources, these animals are not only facing adverse climatic conditions and scarcity of fodder, but are also exposed to contagious and parasitic diseases. The Animal Husbandry Dept. of NWFP has, however, launched a Campaign to extend veterinary aid to the livestock in cooperation with United Nations Development Programme and United Nations High Commission for Refugees. [Text] [Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 23 Feb 80 p 6]

CSO: 4220

TAIWAN

BRIEFS

KAOHSIUNG INCIDENT DETAINEES--Thirteen persons charged with obstructing public functionaries from executing their duty during the Kaohsiung incident were handed over the procuratorate of the Taipei district court for prosecution on 1 March. [Taipei Domestic Service in Mandarin 1200 GMT 1 Mar 80 OW]

CSO: 4205

PAPER WARNS AGAINST LEANING TOO CLOSE TO ANY SUPERPOWER

BK241029 Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai 23 Feb 80 p 5 BK

[Editorial: "The Policy Remains Unchanged"]

[Text] Air Chief Marshal Sitthi Sawetsila, the new foreign minister, made his first official statement last Thursday, saying that changes in his ministry's portfolio will not affect the main points of the country's foreign policy. He also stressed the policy of strengthening relations with the ASEAN countries and other countries, including the superpowers, in order to enhance mutual understanding.

The foreign minister's statement follows what had been expected. It is evident that in a rapidly changing world situation, the best course for Thailand is to establish relations with all countries irrespective of their administrative and economic systems in order to maintain a balance which will save it from the claws of new colonialism which is being openly revived by the superpowers which believe global domination is the only means to preserve their interests and turn them into great nations.

History has taught us a lesson that intimate relations with a particular party can be damaging. This lesson has been proved valid in the cases of Thailand and other countries, and the Foreign Ministry should have learned this lesson well from past experience. In any event, whether or not the matter of too close a relationship with a particular party will occur depends largely on the government's policy, because although the Foreign Ministry is responsible for laying down a general policy, it is the government which imposes major policies.

No country has to rigidly implement its foreign policy, but it must insure that a balance is attained in order to preserve its interests. Flexibility in the implementation of foreign policy is, therefore, essential. We were taught a lesson when we agreed with a neighboring country not to slander each other, for the agreement has been exploited against us much to our infuriation.

We hope the foreign minister will not let any party deceive us again.

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